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7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
8 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
9 AT SEATTLE

10 EMANUEL OWENS,

11 Plaintiff,

12 v.

13 BLACK HILLS, INC., et al.,

14 Defendants.

CASE NO. C20-6081JLR

ORDER OF REFERENCE

15 This action is assigned to the Honorable James L. Robart, United States District
16 Judge. All future documents filed in this case must bear the cause number
17 C20-6081JLR-MLP. The court has reviewed the files and records herein and determined
18 that certain pretrial matters are appropriate to refer to a Magistrate Judge as described
19 below.

20 Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(A) and Local Rule MJR 3, the court hereby
21 refers to Magistrate Judge Michelle L. Peterson all motions to amend or supplement the
22 pleadings under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 15, and all motions related to discovery

1 disputes, including but not limited to motions to compel discovery, motions for a
2 protective order related to discovery, and motions related to issues of privilege. *See* 28
3 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(A); Local Rules W.D. Wash. MJR 3(a). Federal Rule of Civil
4 Procedure 72(a) governs any objections to Magistrate Judge Michelle L. Peterson's
5 rulings concerning the above-described discovery motions. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 72(a);
6 Local Rules W.D. Wash. MJR 3(b).

7 Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(B) and (C) and Local Rule MJR 4, the court
8 also hereby refers to Magistrate Judge Michelle L. Peterson for preparation of a report
9 and recommendation all motions (1) for a temporary restraining order pursuant to Federal
10 Rule of Civil Procedure 65(b); ¹ (2) for judgment on the pleadings pursuant to Federal
11 Rule of Civil Procedure 12(c); (3) to dismiss pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure
12 12(b); and (4) for a default judgment pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 55(b).
13 *See* 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(B); Local Rules W.D. Wash. MJR(a)(3). Federal Rule of Civil
14 Procedure 72(b) governs any further proceedings in this court after Magistrate Judge
15 Michelle L. Peterson files a report and recommendation. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 72(b); Local
16 Rules W.D. Wash. MJR 4(c).

17 Accordingly, the court ORDERS that the above-entitled action is referred to
18 Magistrate Judge Michelle L. Peterson for the specific purposes and types of motions
19 described herein. The court further DIRECTS and EMPOWERS Magistrate Judge
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22 ¹ For motions for a temporary restraining order, Magistrate Judge Michelle L. Peterson is
authorized to prepare the order as recommended for the undersigned's signature.

1 Michelle L. Peterson to conduct hearings and make further necessary orders consistent
2 with 28 U.S.C. § 636, the local rules, and this order.

3 Dated this 30th day of November, 2020.

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6 JAMES L. ROBART
7 United States District Judge
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